

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 6, with:

FIG. 3B shows a received packet 310 which does not include a VLAN header, and another received packet 312 which does include a VLAN header. More particularly, the packets 310, 312 include respective header portions 310H, ~~310P~~ 312H and respective payload portions 310P, 312P. The header portion 310H includes an Ethernet header (ETH), a Multiprotocol Label Switching header (MPLS), an Internet protocol header (IP) and a Transmission Control Protocol header (TCP), with no VLAN header. The header portion 312H includes the ETH, MPLS, VLAN, IP and TCP headers. The packet payloads 310P and 312P are each denoted as DATA. The packets 310, 312 are examples of packets configured in accordance with multiple embedded protocols. As described previously, conventional sequential packet classification processes have difficulty with such packets.